# **EXAMPLES**



Soapy water or any type of cleaning supply should not be emptied into a storm drain.



Suspicious color flowing into a storm drain is a good example of illicit discharge coming from some location nearby.

If you observe or suspect an illicit discharge, immediate contact your community representative on the back of this pamphlet.

Information courtesy of: www.tcpwq.org



# **Contact Information**

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# GRASS CLIPPINGS AND YARD WASTE



An illicit discharge is defined as any discharge to the storm system that is not composed entirely of stormwater. These non-stormwater discharges may be due to illegal dumping, spills that enter the stormwater system, or improper connections to the storm sewer.

## Overview:

- Examples of illicit discharges to the stormwater system include sanitary sewer discharges, household hazardous wastes (chemicals like cleaners, pesticides, fertilizers, etc), oils, paints, chlorinated waters from swimming pools, roadway accident spills, collected yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, etc) placed in the drainage system, trash, garbage, grease from restaurants operations, soil, sediment, and other substances that are not composed entirely of natural stormwater runoff.
- Illicit discharges are illegal and enforced through local ordinances and enforcement measures such as penalties, fines, and property liens.
- Illicit discharges are typically identified through dryweather screening, which inspects the stormwater system for flow during extended periods (three or more days) of dry weather.

Illicit discharges can be identified by inspecting flows for unnatural color or odor, however testing equipment can also be used.

# **EXAMPLES**



Dechlorinated discharges are generally allowed, but contact your community representative for more information. To decholrinate pool water, it should remain idle and uncovered for seven days without adding chemicals.



Though discharges from residential car washing are allowed into the drainage system, people should wash their vehicles in the grass. When washing a car, park it over a non-paved or porous surface to limit water runoff, and always attach an automatic shut-off nozzle to your hose.

Physical indicators of illicit discharges include: Flow, especially during periods of dry weather; Turbidity, such as "cloudiness" or "murkiness"; Odor or Colors, especially if strong or unnatural; Floatables; Sheen; and Stains or Deposits

# **EXAMPLES**



Improper discharge can be identified by foam or suds in the storm system.



Oil sheen in a stream could be related to an illicit discharge location through illegal dumping. Sheen can also indicate the presence of other toxins and pollutants.

# **EXAMPLES**



Improper disposal of restaurant grease has caused damage to the surrounding environment.

# Allowable Discharges:

- Landscape irrigation and lawn watering
- Uncontaminated ground water
- Residential air conditioning condensate
- · Discharges from potable water sources
- Foundation and footing drains (must not have any sanitary connections such as washing machines, sinks, showers, and basement floor drains)
- Individual residential car washing (For car washing, residents are strongly encouraged to park their vehicle in a grassy area to minimize the wash water and soaps from entering the stormwater system.)
- Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges (check with local regulations)